



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DOI Waiver Letter In ERU FILE

CONFIDENTIAL

February 13, 1951

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[REDACTED]
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

The fiscal predicament of the geographic name standardization work has given rise to discussions in this Department, of which you are aware, looking toward action to break the log jam.

One alternative that has been discussed would involve transferring to the CIA the conjoint responsibility for foreign names now assigned by statute to the Secretary of the Interior, on the assumption that adequate financing of this part of the program would be assured and that agency non-conformance would disappear.

This would mean that CIA would service the FNC as Interior now does, taking over the personnel and the foreign name records and resources, and meeting the over-all Federal needs for geographic name standardization.

It will be most useful in further discussions here, if CIA can indicate whether it would consider as compatible with its program the following:

1. To accept the conjoint responsibility for standardizing all foreign names;
2. To enlarge or adapt the standardization program to accommodate all other agencies;
3. To promulgate all names, as standardized, in the name of RFE;
4. To furnish information, as requested, to publishers and other non-Federal users;
5. To maintain the necessary records and supporting data;
6. To maintain contacts with name authorities in other countries or international bodies on a basis of exchange and mutual aid;
7. To house the staff and provide a meeting place for the FNC;
8. To permit personnel to identify themselves publicly with the work, and with CIA;

Since the discussions here are likely to be resumed at an early date,

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THAT THE CIA HAS DETERMINED MUST BE
CLASSIFIED AT THE LEVEL INDICATED:

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any answers or indications of point of view that you can give me in the near future will be most useful.

Comment will also be welcome on any pertinent points or considerations that I have not specifically raised in this letter.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Meredith F. Burrill

Meredith F. Burrill,
Director, Division of Geography